5: Nicolaisen E-4, 5 (1951-1955) 1959
MS25 Tuareg MS25
Air

of his parallel cousins and cross-cousins as his brothers-in-law *(alegges*, pl. *ilousan)*, or sisters-in-law *(taleggest*, pl. *tilousin)*, while the spouses of descendants of all brothers, sisters, and cousins will be his sons-in-law *(aḍeggal*, pl. *iḍoulan)*, or daughters-in-law *(taḍeggalt*, pl. *teḍoulin)*. These terms are always used reciprocally, and parents-in-law and children-in-law will avoid each other accordingly.

Apparently most vassal clans were faithful to their drum-chief and recognized his authority. But Tuareg pastoralists led a turbulent and warlike life, and the members of certain noble clans, or clans listed as vassals but probably of noble origin, would not accept the leadership of the drum-chief although they belonged to his group. Thus there were many quarrels with the noble Kel Azel Tuareg. It is said that in the past the drum-chief more than once punished them very severely not only taking all their livestock but also burning down their camps.

The three clans of Kel Tedale in Northern Air were only nominally part of the Kel Ferouan drum-group. My information confirms Joubert's statement that the Kel Tedale paid no tribute to the Kel Ferouan drum-chief or to chiefs of other drum-groups in Air (Joubert 1939, p. 246). The political independence of the Kel Tedale is also stated by Jean (Jean 1909, p. 104). The noble Kel Ferouan Tuareg claim the Kel Tedale to be true vassals of their drum-chief, and both Jean and Nicolas list them as vassals (Jean 1909, p. 104. – Nicolas 1950b, p. 475). Rodd thinks that both noble and vassal Tuareg were originally found in the three clans the homeland of which was probably Ahaggar (Rodd 1926a, p. 427) The Kel Tedale Tuareg I met all emphasized their noble origin, but Rodd's explanation was verified by Kel Ferouan vassals who said that both noble and vassal Tuareg are found among the Kel Tedale. That some of them are noble by origin seems to appear from the statement of Nicolas that the Kel Tedale in part are related to the Iḥaḍanaren clan of Tassili-n-Ajjer (Nicolas 1950b, p. 475). For the latter clan is considered noble by all Northern Tuareg.

The Kel Tedale were so numerous, so rich in camels, and lived so remote from the rest of the Kel Ferouan clans that the drum-chief could not maintain his power over them. The drum-chief also had trouble with another clan of his group, the Kel Akarra. This clan is said to have been originally of noble status and to have had as its particular vassals the clan of Ibararochchiten. The drum-chief assisted by vassals of the whole group in the past imposed vassalship upon the Kel Akarra, who however refused to give him part of their bride-wealth. It is said that the drum-chief three times made war against the Kel Akarra to bring them to submission and each time they were severely beaten. Nevertheless they refused to pay bride-wealth to the chief, who then ceased to claim it. As a result of these wars the Kel Akarra clan became small and insignificant.

A certain discord reigned within the Kel Ferouan group, but the drum-chief had the support of most clans of vassals who at his order would fight not only foreign Tuareg groups but also quell internal insurrections.